

Stretchable Threads

by Vicky Konrady

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Tested 2 brands of stretchable threads
Mettler Seraflex
Coats & Clarks Eloflex

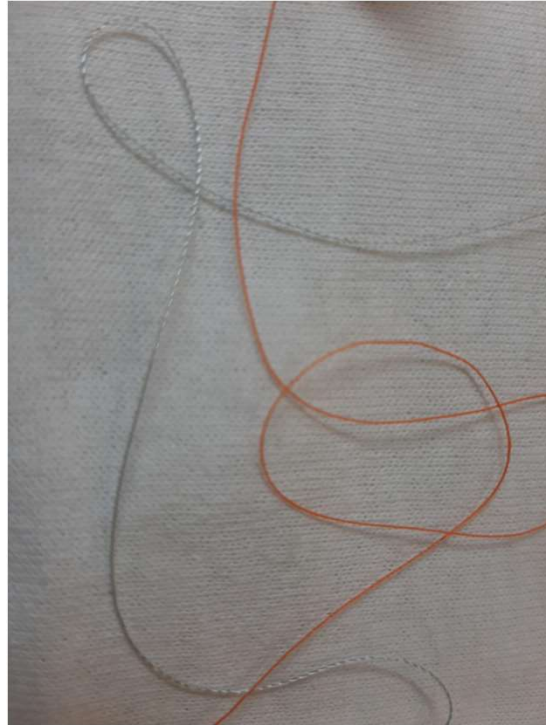
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Twist in thread is different
 Mettler smoother
 Coats & Clark has a distinctive twist
 and "rough" feel

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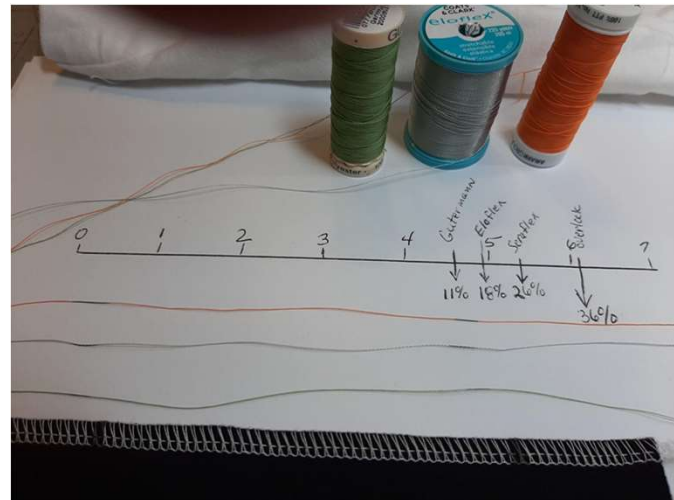
To determine amount of stretch, did the following tests:

Marked a 4" segment on a strand of each and stretched each to maximum.

Seraflex stretched the most to 5 3/8"

Eloflex stretched to 4 7/8"

Compared Guterman polyester using same stretch test. It stretched to 4 5/8"

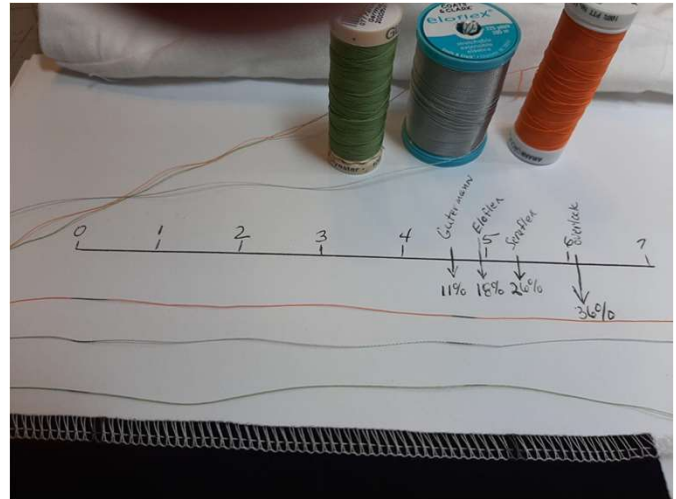


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Did an overlock stitch on ponte (stable knit) to determine stretch.
 Used MaxiLock thread
 Seam stretched to $6\frac{1}{4}$ "

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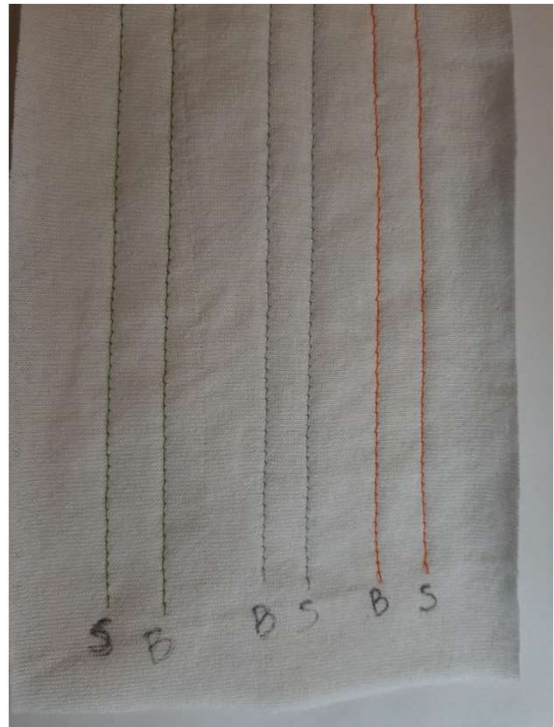
Straight stitch with thread in both bobbin and needle on knits

Used ballpoint/jersey needle on cotton knit (B)

Used stretch needle on 4-way stretch knits (S)

Minimum difference in stitch appearance, which disappeared after stretching fabric.

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Conclusion:

Stretchable thread a good solution for stretchable fabrics when a serger is not an option.

Negatives:

Limited color choices for Eloflex
Seraflex not available in the Des Moines area

Questions?

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